

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of the claims:**

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Pages  
Claim 1-2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (currently amended) ~~The tire of claim 1 wherein~~ A tire for mounting on a wheel rim, comprising:

a toroidal body having a pair of spaced-apart radially extending sidewalls and a cross member, each said sidewall having a first and a second end and an internal face and an external face, with the second end of each of the sidewalls integrally merging into the cross member;

a set of rim-engaging surfaces at the first end of each of the sidewalls;  
at least one road-engaging surface on an external surface of the cross member; and  
an annular chamber defined by the internal faces of the sidewalls and an internal top wall on the cross member opposite the at least one road-engaging surface;

a thickened area at the first end of each of the sidewalls, the thickened area including the rim-engaging surfaces which are compressed into engagement with a rim when the tire is mounted in the rim; wherein

the external face of each of the sidewalls is curved concavely when viewed from outside the annular chamber.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The tire of claim 3 wherein the internal face of each of the sidewalls is curved concavely when viewed from the annular chamber.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The tire of claim 1 3 wherein the thickness of the sidewall varies by more than 10%.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The tire of claim 1 3 wherein the ~~external~~ road-engaging surface of the cross member has a convex curvature across a width of the cross member when the tire is unloaded and viewed from outside the annular chamber.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The tire of claim 6 wherein the cross member has a generally

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constant thickness.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The tire of claim 1 3 wherein the tire body is homogeneously formed from an elastomeric material.

Claim 9 (original): The tire of claim 8 wherein the elastomeric material is selected from a group consisting of: natural rubber, modified rubbers, urethanes and polyurethanes.

Claim 10 (original): The tire of claim 8 wherein the tire body is compressionally conformed when mounted in the rim such that it is circumferentially anisotropic.

Claims 11-21 (withdrawn)

Claim 22 (currently amended): A tire for mounting on a wheel rim, comprising:

- a toroidal body having a pair of spaced-apart radially extending sidewalls and a cross member, each said sidewall having a first and a second end and an internal face and an external face, with the second end of each of the sidewalls integrally merging into the cross member;

- a set of rim-engaging surfaces at the first end of each of the sidewalls;

- at least one road-engaging surface on an external surface of the cross member; and

- an annular chamber defined by the internal faces of the sidewalls and an internal top wall on the cross member opposite the at least one road-engaging surface;

- wherein the sidewalls have generally concave configuration when the tire is mounted on the rim.

Claim 23 (currently amended): The tire according to claim 22, wherein the respective ~~lobe-like projections~~ sidewalls are separable when the tire is not mounted on the rim, but are compressed into engagement when the tire is mounted in the rim, thereby closing the annular chamber.

Claim 24 (currently amended): The tire according to claim 22, wherein the ~~lobe-like projections at the end of each of the sidewalls conjoin~~ are joined the respective sidewalls and close the annular chamber.